

USPTO Customer No. 25280

Case 9223A

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CENTRAL FAX CENTER****MAR 07 2008****AMENDMENTS TO THE CLAIMS**

Claims 1 – 21. (Cancelled)

22. (Currently Amended) A dust control mat, said mat comprising a tufted pile textile surface and an elastomer backing, wherein said tufted pile textile surface comprises tufts of yarn tufted into a ~~tufted~~ tufting substrate and exhibits a dust retention performance in an unwashed state defined by a sand retention value of at least 1000 g/m², and wherein the elastomer backing comprises elastomer crumbs, a binder, and a plurality of voids between the elastomer crumbs, such that the elastomer backing has a density in the range of about 0.5 g/cm³ to about 0.9 g/cm³, and wherein said mat is formed at a temperature of less than 165° C and at pressure of less than 30 psi.
23. (Previously Presented) The mat according to claim 22, wherein the elastomer crumb is crumbed vulcanized rubber.
24. (Previously Presented) The mat according to claim 23, wherein the rubber is nitrile rubber.
25. (Previously Presented) The mat according claim 22, wherein the elastomer backing has a bulk density in the range of about 45% to about 70% of the solid density of the elastomer crumb material.
26. (Previously Presented) The mat according to claim 25, wherein the elastomer backing has a bulk density in the range of about 55% to about 70% of the solid density of the elastomer crumb material.

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27. (Previously Presented) The mat according to claim 22, wherein the elastomer backing has a density in the range of about 0.7 g/cm³ to about 0.9 g/cm³.
- 28-30. (Cancelled)
31. (Previously Presented) The mat according to claim 22, wherein the backing has a thickness of at least 1 mm.
32. (Previously Presented) The mat according to claim 22, wherein the elastomer crumbs have a diameter of less than 5 mm.
33. (Previously Presented) The mat according to claim 32, wherein the elastomer crumbs have a diameter in the range of 2 mm to 4 mm.
34. (Currently Amended) The mat according to claim 22, ~~wherein~~ wherein the elastomer crumb backing includes powdered elastomer crumb that comprises at least 10% by weight of the backing.
35. (Previously Presented) The mat according to claim 22, wherein the binder is present at a level of from 2% to 20% by weight of the backing.
36. (Previously Presented) The mat according to claim 22, wherein the elastomer crumb backing includes elastomer crumbs and powdered elastomer crumb, wherein the powdered elastomer crumb comprises between 0% and 1% by weight of the backing and the binder is present at a level of from 2% to 12% by weight of the backing.

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37. (Previously Presented) The mat according to claim 32, wherein the elastomer crumb backing includes powdered elastomer crumb comprising at least 10% by weight of the backing and the binder level lies in the range of 9% to 20%.
38. (Previously Presented) The mat according to claim 22, wherein the binder is a polyurethane MDI binder.
39. (Previously Presented) The mat according to claim 38, wherein the binder is selected from the group consisting of 4,4-methylene di-p-phenylene isocyanate (MDI) polyurethane one- and two-component adhesives.
40. (Previously Presented) The mat according to claim 39, wherein the binder is a solvent-free one-component polyurethane adhesive.
41. (Previously Presented) The mat according to claim 22, wherein the binder is a hot melt binder.
42. (Previously Presented) The mat according to claim 22, wherein the backing includes powdered additives selected from the group consisting of anti-microbial additives, anti-flammability additives, pigments, and anti-static additives.
43. (Previously Presented) The mat according to claim 22, wherein a crumb rubber border extends beyond the periphery of the textile surface on at least two opposite edges of the mat.

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44. (Previously Presented) The mat according to claim 43, wherein a crumb rubber border extends around the entire periphery of the mat.
45. (Previously Presented) The mat according to claim 22, wherein an edging strip is bonded to the elastomer backing adjacent at least one edge thereof.
46. (Previously Presented) The mat according to claim 45, wherein the textile surface partially overlaps and is bonded to the edging strip.
47. (New) The mat according to claim 22, wherein said mat is formed at a pressure of no more than 10 psi.
48. (New) The mat according to claim 22, wherein said mat is formed at a temperature of no more than 125° C.